

HIGHLIGHTED CHANGE IDEA

We are highlighting how interactions with Glenville State University's Pioneer STEM Club helps make meaningful connections between STEM students and faculty, staff, and peers in ways that promote belonging, wellness, resilience, and financial stability.

SUMMARY

Student directors ran campus club meetings and planned events alongside non-stipended club members in order to facilitate STEM belongingness on Glenville's campus. This included tabling events, a trip to Oglebay Good Zoo, mid-term and final study sessions, a scavenger hunt, a picnic with faculty and staff, and advertising for a summer program.

Every event held by Glenville's campus club was free to students to ensure there was no financial stress to students.

ACT

We plan to adapt this change idea for the upcoming semesters. The campus club is always changing and a lot of continuing with the campus club depends on being flexible as the semesters go on. Funding permitting, we want to continue to expand our reach on Glenville's campus and build up our connections with our STEM community.

PLAN

Students working as part of the First2 institutional team at Glenville will continue a campus club focused on connecting STEM majors to one another to increase students' sense of belongingness in ways that ultimately support overall academic success.

The club will participate in all required activities according to Glenville State University, as well as, host regular events/activities for STEM students.

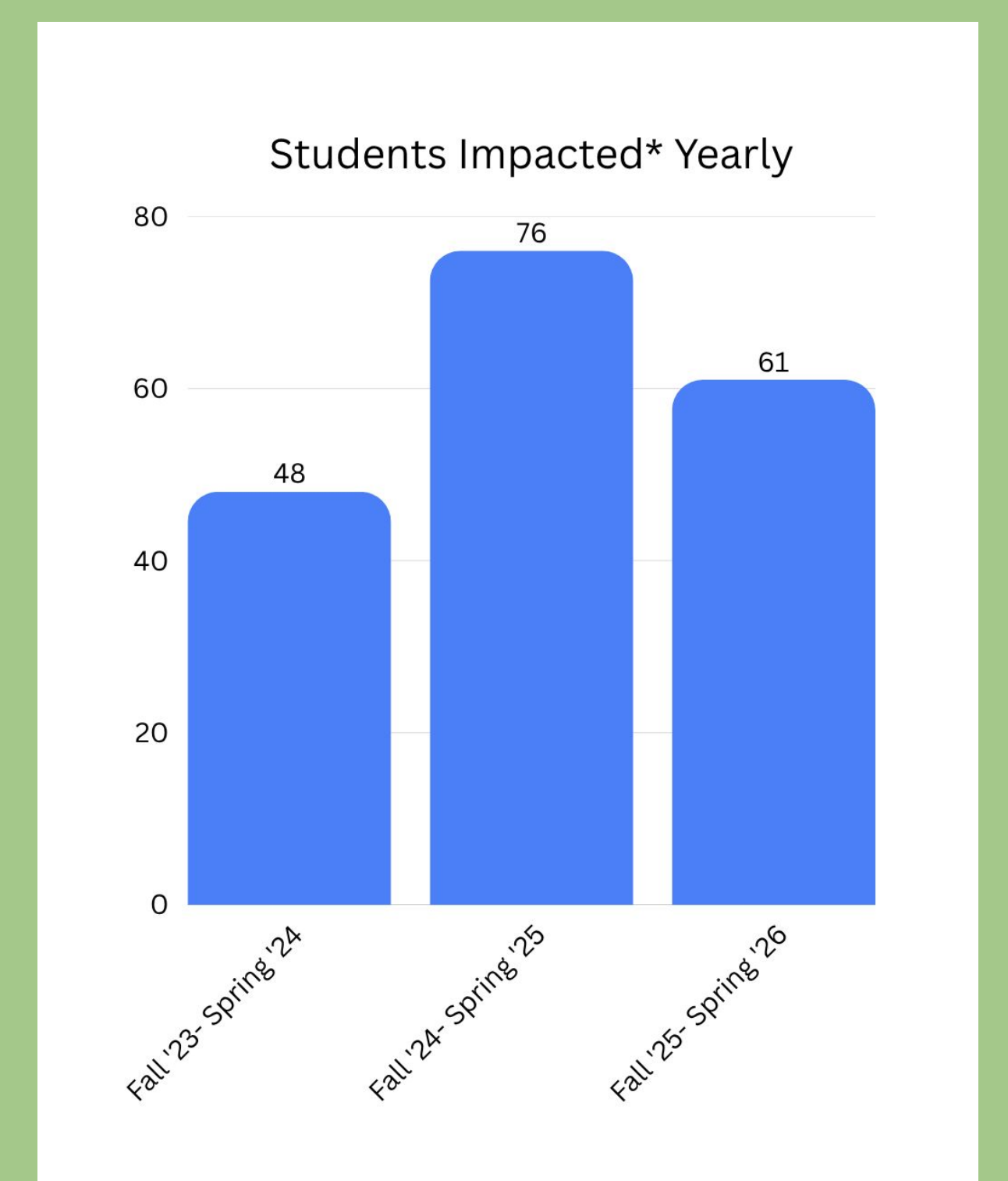
DO

Club meetings were held weekly, Wednesdays at 4pm, in a central location of campus. Flyers promoting the club and club events were hung throughout the semester for advertising, as well as posted on our club's Facebook™ page. Meeting notes and materials were shared in a teams group for future reference.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



DATA



Above is data showing the number of students that were impacted by our campus club each year (*either attended a club meeting or event).

STUDY

Some of the main questions we asked in this study were:

1. To what extent does regular participation in campus club meetings and events increase students' sense of belongingness, grit and self-efficacy in their STEM field, as measured by a retrospective post survey?
1. To what extent does regular participation in campus club meetings and events improve students' sense of their leadership skills and abilities, as measured by a retrospective post survey?
1. To what extent does regular participation in campus club meetings and events support students remaining in good standing (not on academic probation)?

TIPS FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONAL TEAMS

The PDSA process is not scary once experiencing it! Running a campus club can be really engaging and it allows for many students to interact with each other and build relationships outside of classes. Utilize this experience to continue building momentum for students to keep them engaged! It's also good to know when most students show up to events; for Glenville, later into the evening typically works better.

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Data collected shows that as a club we have impacted, over the last three school years, 156 students at Glenville State University (graph above displays duplicates from year to year). 6 of those students have participated in the club for all three years the club has been present at Glenville. We as a campus do not tend to get a large enough number of survey responses to accurately be able to report on how students feel these events and meetings are impacting their academics, fitness on campus, etc. However, from a sheer outreach perspective, we have reached a large portion of STEM majors on campus and that our club has positively affected them! For example, from the previous surveys, students have said that through participating in our campus' club that "I think it made me a little more resilient..." and that it "helped provide me with opportunities to lead in my community."